

**The Southbury Training School Board of Trustees
Met in Eugene Harvey's Conference Room at Southbury Training School,
Southbury, Connecticut, on Monday, March 27, 2017.**

Present: Eileen Lemay, Chair
Ann Dougherty, Vice Chair
Louis Richards
Mark Cooper
Eugene Harvey
Excused: Diana Mennone

Eileen Lemay, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Ann Dougherty, Vice Chair, read a written report prepared by Diana Mennone, STS BOT Representative to the Council on Developmental Services, regarding the DDS Council meeting held February 19, 2017.

Jordan Scheff, Acting DDS Commissioner reported on Governor's budget proposals. He commented on how grateful he was to the Governor for including items in his budget that would be beneficial to DDS. This includes some money to help providers. \$1.8 million will stabilize providers undergoing conversion of DDS grant-funded services to Medicaid fee-for-service payment. This will allow rates for the lower-rate providers to be increased without having to reduce funding from the higher rate providers. An additional \$1.0 million has been proposed to fund other initiatives in creating a broader continuum of services – expand and revise respite; develop age-appropriate socialization and independent living opportunities. Another initiative could be Assertive Community Teams (ACT) to support families and private providers to prevent emergency placements or emergency department visits. \$1 million would fund services that support target placements off the Waiting List into existing vacancies in the Community Companion Homes. (Aside: when circumstances make it impractical for a child or an adult to live in their family home, placement in a DDS licensed Community Companion Home model offers a family setting to people with intellectual disabilities. Families of diverse cultures, backgrounds and composition are sought for the best possible match.)

Mr. Scheff told the Council DDS will be using a new form and procedural process to improve the Waiting List priority format. If the budget passes as presented, DDS will have to address graduate funding in a creative way (students leaving high school will not have day programs/supported employment opportunities).

The 5 Year Plan is on the DDS website. It contains feedback that was received.

Legislative Update was given by Christine Pollio Cooney, Director of Legislative Affairs. Too many to mention, see on DDS website. She thanked the Council for their advocacy and for all of their hard work to educate legislators on DDS issues.

Many families and advocates presented or wrote written testimony for Family Hearing Day. The Council's Advocacy Sub-committee presented their 7 points of unity and a letter was sent to the Governor. Additional advocacy opportunities in attending or sending testimony will be available at the Appropriations Committee Hearings and the Public Health Committee later in February and in March. A letter will be drafted for the Council Chair, Adrienne Benjamin, to present.

To view the approved minutes from the February 2017 meeting, go to the DDS website at www.ct.gov/dds - click on **BOARDS AND COUNCILS**, click on **COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**, scroll down to: **2017 MEETING SCHEDULES / MINUTES**. Find dates of **MEETINGS**; see **AGENDA** columns and **MINUTES** columns to the right.

To ask and receive DDS legislative updates, email the DDS Legislative and Regulations Specialist: Rod.OConnor@ct.gov . More information is available on the DDS website: www.ct.gov/dds (Legislative Affairs).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Current Resident Population – 228

Since the last meeting there was one death.

Residential

- Renovations to Cottage 10 on-going for the future office of the STS Foundation. It is anticipated to be completed by the end of May.
- Request for new roofs for Cottages 40, 41 and 42. Anticipated monies funded through the next bonding projects.
- New floors project in Cottage 41 expected to begin next month. A quote has been submitted.
- Cottage 7 projected to be open the end of June.
- The elevator for Cottage 40 is moving ahead. The \$300,000 bid is expected to be approved.

Positions

STS has approval to fill two positions on campus: 1) Part-Time Qualified Craft Worker for Adaptive Medical Equipment; and 2) Full Time 3rd Shift Registered Nurse. Also it has been approved to fill a 120 day position for an engineer for the Powerhouse.

CPTV

On March 2nd John Holt from CPTV visited Cottage 20, Cottage 18, and the Dental and Medical Clinics in preparing for his DDS documentary. In addition, he interviewed two guardians of STS residents. This documentary is anticipated to be released in May.

Music Therapy

The Music Therapy program has begun with much enthusiasm from the residents. Funding for this program is shared by Volunteer Services, the STS Foundation and the Home and School Association of STS.

Medical Residents Tour STS

Helena Grabo, a clinician educator with the Yale-Waterbury Internal Medicine Residency Program at Waterbury Hospital, requested a tour of our facility with her internal medicine physicians in training. Several of her Residents had expressed interest in learning more about Southbury Training School and visiting the campus since they regularly provide medical care to STS consumers when they are admitted to Waterbury Hospital. Eugene Harvey toured Helena's first group of residents on March 17th, visiting the Medical and Dental Clinics, Cottage 42 and interviewing with Dr. Patel, Acting Medical Director. Two additional groups will tour March 31st and May 26th.

Sheltered Workshops

All Sheltered Workshops have been federally mandated to close as of September 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

Cottage food budgets and P-cards were discussed. The protocol for using P-cards is currently being revised. Sufficient Cooks remain in cottages to prepare meals.

Doctors and Nursing positions also discussed. Two Medical Doctors and two Physician's Assistants, along with sufficient nurses, cover all medical needs on campus.

NEW BUSINESSNo New Business

The next meeting of the STS Board of Trustees will be **Monday, April 24, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. in the Director's Conference Room.**

There being no further business, Ann Dougherty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m.; Mark Cooper seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Webb, Recording Secretary

Mark A.R. Cooper, Secretary

Approved by the STS Board of Trustees
April 3, 2017